

## **Bayside Marine**

BY GILLIAN SMITH

In the 1940's, if a Duxbury resident needs a bike, they knew where to go: Hall's Corner. Today, if that same Duxbury resident needed a boat, they know where to go: Snug Harbor. Over several decades, one company has continued to serve Duxbury's needs, no matter what they may be. In 1949, Jack Kent, Sr., purchased an appliance business in Hall's Corner. As the

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store grew in popularity, the business started selling fewer washers, dryers and refrigerators, and started selling bikes and trains along with marine items. Jack Kent, Sr., shared a love of boats and boating and gradually began collecting marine and boating items to sell.

"We had HO trains, fishing gear, hockey sticks; we even sharpened skates," said Jack Kent, Jr., Jack Sr.'s son.

Jack Kent, Jr., was 5-years-old when the business started its transition from appliance store to eclectic general store. One of his fondest memories of the store at its original location was during Christmas time.

"As Christmas neared, we would take some of the marine items that weren't selling as fast and set them aside," Jack Kent, Jr., said. "I would go out with Dad and buy a bunch of toys and bring them back to set up in the store."

The store continued its evolution into the marine industry and in 1960 Jack Kent struck a deal with Mike Butler, who owned Snug Harbor Motors, and moved down to Bayside Marine's current location in Snug Harbor. Today, Bayside Marine is the go-to store for boating equipment and repairs.

"We don't sell bikes and toys now, only boating things," Jack Kent, Jr., who purchased the business in 1978, said. Though the business has grown significantly over the years, it has always remained in the Kent family, and is now in its transition into the third generation of Kent men, as Jack Kent, III, recently purchased the business from his father.

With deep local roots, 85 percent of Bayside Marine's business is done in town.

"That's pretty rare," Jack Kent, Jr., said.

Jack Kent, Jr., said there is still at least one original customer who still visits Bayside Marine, and possibly more.

Duxbury's

**Homegrown**

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